

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph in the "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)" section of the specification starting from page 1:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/354,541, filed January 29, 2003, now U.S. Patent No. 6,683,422, which is incorporated herein its entirety by reference.

Please substitute the paragraph in the "ABSTRACT" section of the specification starting from page 11:

A full wave sense amplifier for sensing a periodic current flowing through a discharge lamp is disclosed. The full wave sense amplifier comprises a first circuit sensing the positive going portion of the periodic current. The amplifier also includes a second circuit for sensing the negative going portion of the periodic current. Finally, an output circuit for combining the negative going portion and the positive going portion into a current flow signal is provided. Further, a method for driving a discharge lamp is disclosed which comprises converting a DC signal to an AC signal based on the resonant frequency of the lamp, filtering the AC signal, and sensing the full wave current flowing through the lamp.